ORDER: The motion (Doc. No. 40) is GRANTED

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE AT NASHVILLE

SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD OF THE)
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN)
CHURCH IN AMERICA et al.,)
)
Plaintiffs,)
) No. 3:25-cv-684
v.)
) Judge Campbell
STEVEN R. FINNEY et al.,) Magistrate Judge Holmes
)
Defendants.)

JOINT MOTION TO EXTEND DEADLINES AND PAGE LIMITS

The Parties jointly submit this request to extend the deadlines for briefing on Defendants' response to the Complaint and to extend the page limitations for this briefing. Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(b); Local Rule 7.01. Good cause exists to grant this motion.

The Court previously granted an extension until August 22, 2025, for Defendants to respond to the Complaint. Dkt. 24. However, on August 12, 2025, the Court set a hearing on Plaintiffs' motion for preliminary injunction for September 10, 2025. Dkt. 39. The Parties believe that postponing briefing on the motion to dismiss is appropriate to allow counsel adequate time to prepare for the September 10 preliminary-injunction hearing and so that the briefing can respond to any issues that arise at the hearing.

The Parties request that Defendants' deadline to respond to the Complaint be extended to September 26, 2025. And, due to the likely complexity of this filing and several other pressing matters on the schedule of Plaintiffs' counsel, the Parties ask that Plaintiffs' deadline to respond to

Defendants' motion to dismiss be extended to November 7, 2025. The Parties also request that Defendants' deadline to file a reply be extended to November 21, 2025.

Because of the large number of Defendants and the complex jurisdictional and constitutional issues this lawsuit presents, the Parties also request extensions of the standard page limits to adequately address all relevant arguments. Thus, the Parties ask that Defendants be allowed to file a memorandum of law that is 35 pages long, that Plaintiffs be allowed a response that is 35 pages long, and that Defendants be allowed a reply that is 10 pages long.

For these reasons, the Parties request that the Court grant this motion.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on August 15, 2025, a copy of the foregoing was filed electronically. Notice of this filing will be sent by operation of the Court's electronic filing system to all parties below:

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